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### Montana science teachers honor UM department chair

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

Nov. 22, 1996

### **MONTANA SCIENCE TEACHERS HONOR UM DEPARTMENT CHAIR**

#### **MISSOULA --**

Jerry Esmay, chair of The University of Montana-Missoula Computer Science Department, was recently honored for his dedication to the students and science teachers of Montana.

Esmay was awarded the Montana Science Teachers Association Organization Award for 1996 during the Montana Education Association convention last month in Helena.

The award recognizes Esmay's work and the dedication UM and its Computer Science Department show by supporting the Montana Science Fair.

"(The award) has my name associated with it, but I'm kind of a figure head; there are hundreds of other people who are actually involved in putting this fair together," Esmay said.

The Montana Science Fair brings 450 to 500 sixth- through 12th grade students to UM to compete for numerous prizes. The focus of the competition is for students to do scientific research in a particular area and present that data at the fair, Esmay said.

The fair is sponsored by UM with support from the University's Excellence Fund.

The 42nd annual Montana Science Fair is scheduled for April 7-8, 1997, at UM.

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